

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W  
----- 050382

O P 251311Z JUL 73  
FM AMEMBASSY SANAA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2461  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T SANAA 1378

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, JO, SA, YE, IR, UAE  
SUBJ: EMERGENCY ARMS FOR YEMEN; YEMEN AIR FORCE TRAINING

REF: STATE 143868

DEPARTMENT PASS USCINCEUR, AND SECDEF FOR ISA

DHAHRAN FOR CHUSMTM

1. I PASSED PRICE INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTTEL TO  
PRIMIN JULY 21. YARG CIVILIAN AND MILITARY LEADERSHIP  
STUDYING WHAT TO ORDER, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION  
AMMUNITION RECEIVED AND ABOUT TO BE RECEIVED FROM  
JORDAN. THEY SAY THEY WILL BE ANSWERING IN NEXT DAY  
OR SO. IN ORDER KEEP CIRCLE OF THOSE AWARE OF  
TRANSACTION AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE YARG REQUEST LETTER  
OF OFFER BE POUCHED HERE SOONEST.

2. IN A NEW DEVELOPMENT OF CONSIDERABLE POTENTIAL  
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IMPORTANCE IN THE PICTURE OF LONGER TERM MILITARY ASSIST-

ANCE TO YARG, IRANIAN AMBASSADOR CONFIRMED  
JULY 24 THAT YARG HAS ASKED HIM ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF  
IRAN'S TRAINING YEMENI AIR FORCE PILOTS AND GROUND  
CREWS, WITHOUT PUBLICITY, IN IRAN IN F-5S. SPECIFICALLY,  
YEMENIS HAVE ASKED WHETHER IRAN COULD BEGIN BY PROVID-  
ING IN-  
TENSIVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR 50 OFFICERS  
AND YTCOS. IRANIA FAMBASSADOR SAYS HE HAS INFORMED  
YARG THAT HIS GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO DO THIS AND PRO-  
VIDE SUBSEQUENT FLIGHT AND GROUND CREW INSTRUCTION  
ON HIGHLY DISCREET BASIS. HE IS CURRENTLY AWAITING  
LIST OF YEMENIS DESIGNATED FOR TRAINING. THIS TO BE  
PROVIDED JULY 30.

3. COMMENT: IN LIGHT OF PRINCE SULTAN'S REMARK TO  
AMBASSADOR THACHER (PARA 5 JIDDA 3081) ANDORSING INITIA-;  
TION OF FAT TRAINING FOR YEMENIS AT EARLIEST OPPOR-  
TUNITY, AND HIS REFERENCE TO IRAN, IT IS TOL E HOPED  
THAT SAG WILL NOT BE IRRITATED WHEN IT DISCOVERES THAT  
IRAN IS ABOUT TO TAKE ON THE TRAINING OF SOME YEMENIS.  
TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDING, WE THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL  
FOR IRANIANS, POSSIBLY IN BOTH TEHRAN AND JIDDA, TO  
DISCUSYXWITH SAG. WE WILL ENCOURAGE YARG DO SO WITH  
SAUDI AMBASSADOR. IN APPROACHING IRAN, INCIDENTALLY,  
YEMENIS DO NOT NECESSARILY EXCLUDE A SAUDI ROLE IN  
RELATION TO AIR FORCE ALTHOUGH THEY THINK THAT IRAN,  
IF WILLING TO HELP, LIKELY BE IN POSITION DO SO MORE  
EFFECTIVELY.

4. IF FRICTION CAN BE PREVENTED, IRANIAN INVOLVEMENT  
IN SUPPORT OF YEMEN AIR FORCE WOULD APPEAR, IN FACT, A  
USEFUL DEVELOPMENT. WE GATHER IRANIANS ARE VERY  
EFFECTIVE INNORAINING, IRAN IS REPORTED TO HAVE A SUR-  
PLUS OF F-5S BEING PHASED OUT, AND YEMENIS SHOULD PROVE  
TO BE GOOD PUPILS.

5. WE WOULD WELCOME COMMENT OF EMBASSY TEHRAN ON THIYDF  
MATTER ON BASIS OF  
ANY DISCUSSION IT MAY HAVE WITH GOI.  
IRANIAN AMBASSADOR HERE IS WELL-INTENTIONED BUT A  
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LITTLE FUZZY AND CONFUSED IN HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH  
YARG. IN VIEW OF EMBASSY TEHRAN, DOES IRANIAN WILL-  
NESS ACCEPT 50 STUDENTS FOR PRE-FLIGHT ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE COURSE REFLECT READINESS TAKE OVER A SIGNIFICANT  
PORTION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR TRAINING AND SUPPLY OF  
AN F-5-EQUIPPED YAR AIR FORCE? YARG WILL TEND ASSUME  
IT DOES.

6. WE ARE AWARE THAT YARG WILL TRY TO KEEP IRANIAN  
TRAINING PROGRAM SECRET AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.  
CRAWFORD

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED USCINCEUR AND SECDEF.

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** MASS, JO, SA, YE, IR  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC AMMAN JIDDA TEHRAN ABU DHABI ADDIS ABABA DHAHRAN KUWAIT  
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